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COUNTRY Korea

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SUBJECT Underground Communication Tunnels at Heartbreak Ridge, Korea

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1. The Communist forces in North Korea began building underground communication tunnels in areas south of Heartbreak Ridge, Korea, during the summer of 1951. These tunnels are designed for the exclusive use of snipers, intelligence agents, signal personnel, and guerrilla units, who will launch guerrilla activities after this area has been recaptured by United Nations troops.
2. These tunnels are built in an area centered on Huahsiaooh'uants'un (화소오촌) (? Hwasoch'öñch'ön), about 15 kilometers southwest of Heartbreak Ridge. The tunnels radiate from that village and have exits in all nearby villages. The tunnel exit for each village is built under beds in civilian houses or in comparatively remote or hidden corners of such buildings. If distance between villages is too great, "half-way exits" are built in the large graveyards through which the tunnels pass. Graves used as exits are covered or camouflaged in some form. Small underground warehouses have been built for the storage of food and explosives beside each tunnel near the exits. Guards and other personnel are stationed inside these warehouses to manage them and to maintain the electric lighting and communications equipment.
3. If United Nation forces fight over this area, these warehouses and tunnels will be constantly used as places from which surprise attacks can be launched.

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